



THANKSGIVING

By GRACIE ELWOOD

God of our fathers, our hearts are thankful yet to Thee,
For Thou hast still preserved our freedom and our liberty;
We thank Thee for the Stars and Stripes that proudly wave
today

O'er a nation and a people free from bondage and from fear.
Stand by us as you did in days of yore,
And bless us as you did the humble pilgrims landing on our
shores.

Oh, give us courage in the fight for right,
God, give us victory and lead us by Thy might,
Till all our foes are conquered and a lasting peace is ours.
We thank Thee for our leaders brave; wilt Thou still lead
them on;

We thank Thee for our Service boys, God bless them every
one.

Oh, give them strength for these dark days, they need Thy
help just now,
Drive back our foes, defeat them, Lord, for Thou dost know
just how

To lead us on to victory; O mighty God, lead on,
Till every foe is conquered and this tyrants' war is won.
And may our flag forever wave for freedom and for right
And let Thanksgiving song of praise ring out through all the
night.

May no more wars come near our shores and may we say
in years to come,

God of our Fathers, our hearts are thankful yet to Thee,
For Thou hast still preserved our freedom and our liberty.

THE GROUND OF



“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”—Eph. 5:20.

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DELKSAID

—By—
D. H. DELK

THE WHOLE ARMOUR

(Continued)

Eph. 6:12 (Syriac)—“Our conflict is not with flesh and blood, but with principalities, and with those in authority, and with the possessors of this dark world (these are the ones who hinder us) and with the evil spirits that are beneath heaven. Therefore put ye on the whole armour of God, THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO MEET THE EVIL ONE.”

This implies an offensive warfare. There is something wrong if we are always on the defensive; we are either cowards, losing, or we are unprepared. Many folks are run here and there by little demons that would not worry us if we had on the whole armour. One morning a little dog scared my little boy right much by running right behind him. If he had turned round with boldness the dog would have run. The whole armour will resist the devil; that makes him flee. Washington said to be prepared for war was the best way to have peace. I know this is true spiritually speaking.

“THE HELMET OF SALVATION” (Not Religion)

A helmet is to protect the head, mind and brains, and if we have brains we won't go without the helmet. The helmet is very much needed by soldiers who go over the top. Those who go over the top will surely get shot at, and surely we want to be good soldiers, not slackers, drones and cowards.

The helmet will ward off many thoughts (snake eggs). All sin is first a thought. A mind without the helmet is like meat without salt, soon corrupt, and one corrupt mind will corrupt others. In 2 Tim. 3, we read where in the last days perilous times will come, etc. People will have a form of godliness but deny the power, and they will learn much but not the truth. These will be men and women of corrupt minds, because they don't have on the helmet of salvation.

Paul once wore a very bright helmet of religion; it was very conspicuous. No doubt it stood out above those of his friends.

Many people think they have religion, when they are troubled with dyspepsia—(R. G. Ingersoll).

“THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT”

The Word of God is a weapon of the Holy Ghost; it is a weapon that is not used enough. If it were used more, the powers of old Satan would be weaker. If it were used enough the power of Satan would be broken. The devil loves lies, because he is the father of lies, and if we are not very, very careful he will cause us to act a lie, if we don't tell them. The Word of God is truth, and as long as we use that only, the devil is discomfited and defeated.

I heard of a young lady, named Ruth, who had a great love for the truth, for she said she would die before she would tell a lie, and she died is the prime of her youth. Well, it is better to die young than make an old liar.

It is said at the coronation of Edward VI, England, Ireland and France presented him with swords, and he said, “There is still another sword to be delivered to me.” This made his lords wonder. Then he said, “I mean the Bible, which is the Word of God.” Now wouldn't the war soon cease if every leader depended more on this weapon? If your sword of the Spirit is dusty and rusty, then Satan is your boss. I'm afraid God won't open the door of heaven to anyone who keeps his Bible shut.

Now if we have on the girdle of truth, breastplate of righteousness, the gospel shoes, shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation, then the Word of God (Sword of the Spirit) will always interest us; it will never get old. It is said that in the seventy-seventh year of Charles Elliot he read the Old Testament through in three weeks, and his daughter asked why and what, and he said, “I'm reading news.”

WANTED—Pastor for small church which can easily take care of family of two or three. Located in same town with state parsonage. Completely furnished parsonage; lights, fuel, and water furnished. Nice building. No indebtedness. Anyone interested, please contact overseer. (No sightseers need apply who want to come just for the trip.) We want someone who really has the work of the Lord at heart and who will stay throughout the remainder of this Assembly year. The last pastor resigned to attend Bible School.—W. H. Godwin, overseer of Montana, Box 174, Harlowton, Mont.

NOTICES

I am planning to evangelize some this year. If anyone desires my service, write and let me know so I can make my appointments.—W. T. Truett, 1413 N. Larch St., Lansing 6, Mich.

Anyone who has tracts, Evangelists or Lighted Pathways they would like to give to the sick and afflicted, please send them to Mrs. Dewey Herndon, Box 3533, West Monroe, La.

I am now open for revivals. If you wish my service, let me hear from you.—H. A. Powell, 606 Parnell St., Marietta, Ga., phone 443-M.

WANTED—A young man, preferably, or a young lady to assist in pastoral work, including secretarial work and, probably, a radio program later. Please write at once about your experience and training. If you have not had secretarial training but are willing and determined to study at home, write anyhow. My library contains several standardized books in education and theology.—Pastor, Church of God, B. E. Hicks, 106 Ferry St., Williamstown, W. Va.

Those who have loved ones or friends they wish to be in church services at Douglas Air Base, Douglas, Ariz., notify Rev. Grady V. Thomas, 1230 19th St., Douglas, Ariz.

To all Churches, Sunday Schools and Y.P.E.'s of the Colored Work: Please send all moneys direct to C. F. Bright, 554 Paulson Ave., Pittsburgh 6, Pa.—C. F. Bright.

Our new clerk of the Grand Ledge, Mich., Church of God is Mrs. Sarah Deeble, Kennedy St., Grand Ledge, Mich. Verle Sears, Kennedy and Jefferson Sts., Grand Ledge, is the treasurer.—W. T. Truett, district overseer, 1413 N. Larch St., Lansing 6, Mich.

Revival

TOWNSEND, Tenn.—We praise the Lord for the blessings saints and sinners received in a four weeks' revival which has just closed here. Six were saved, two sanctified, and three added to the church. We are looking forward to a good year in the Lord. Our church is progressing under the leadership of the good pastor, R. L. Sifford.—Agnes Lane, clerk.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

The General Overseer Speaks

JOHN C. JERNIGAN

THE BEGINNING

*The Power Fell, Evangelistic Fire
FLAMED. Sinners Were Saved,
Sick Were Healed.*

*"And as I began to speak the Holy
Ghost fell upon them as on us at the
BEGINNING," Acts 11:15.*

Peter explaining to the apostles and brethren the outpouring of the Spirit on the Gentiles, referred to the time of their own baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire at Pentecost as the BEGINNING.

The day of Pentecost was the BEGINNING of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost, the BEGINNING of the preaching of the full gospel, the BEGINNING of the Church dispensation. And now the question, Should it continue as at the BEGINNING? Should the same power fall as at the BEGINNING? Should the same evangelistic zeal burn as at the BEGINNING? Let us now look at the BEGINNING and see what their interest and activities were. The Spirit fell and one hundred and twenty were filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance, and there was a mighty stir in Jerusalem. Some were confounded, others amazed and marvelled, while still others stood in wonder and some unbelievers mocked and made fun.

Peter, freshly anointed, stood up and preached a great sermon in the power and demonstration of the Spirit; men were awakened to the sense of their lost condition, and inquired of the apostles, "What shall we do?"

From the day of their baptism of fire and power Peter, John, and others boldly preached Christ as the crucified and risen Savior and went about healing the sick, casting out devils and doing wonders in His name.

During these wonderful days of the BEGINNING, the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved. We have a record that at one time three thousand souls were added to their number, another time five thousand, and still another ingathering of a great multitude. The revival fire was flaming and spreading like a wild

prairie fire whipped by a western wind.

This was the BEGINNING of men being saved through the death and sufferings of the Son of God, the BEGINNING of sanctification by the blood, the BEGINNING of the baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire, the BEGINNING of the preaching of the full gospel to every creature. Christ told His disciples that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, BEGINNING at Jerusalem. This was the BEGINNING of a burden and responsibility that is still upon the Church, a job that we have never completed.

When the Bible speaks about preaching the gospel, I believe it means the full gospel, the whole truth, the entire plan of salvation, uncompromised and fearlessly declared by men with the full experience, baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire, accompanied by tongues and power.

The man who declares the whole counsel will never be popular in society and invited to speak at clubs, worldly meetings, and banquets, but can always find a crowd who will listen to the message that God has given him.

The Church of God ministry has a message and is not afraid to preach it. It must be preached with pay or no pay, some of us have been accused of quitting if it were not for the money we receive, but as evidence of the determination of our ministers, I would sight you to the many years of hard toil and sacrifice they have made without grumbling, and almost without money, often with only a meager sum to barely exist on. But the message reached the people and the Church of God was established. We realize there is a job to be done, and feel responsible for the task. The job truly is great, the field is wide and long, and the sheaves are already whited to harvest.

As we look out over the great field, which is the world, with its vast territories and multitudes of human beings who have never heard this full-gospel message, and then look at the

laborers that are so few, compared to the job that is to be done, we groan within, and a prayer comes from the depths of our souls, "Lord, send forth more laborers into the harvest."

There are calls daily from the field for Church of God preachers to "COME OVER AND HELP US." Pastors, district overseers, and state overseers are continually being contacted and begging for some one to come over and bring the message to their communities. Letters, telegrams, and telephone calls come continually to the office of General Overseer asking for help. I have just received a letter from V. B. Rains, state overseer, Weatherford, Texas, asking for twelve workers to do evangelistic work in the State of Texas, but we have no one to send. Other state overseers are in need of good men and women who love God and have a message on their hearts and a burden for lost souls. It is not just men and women who are needed but it is those who feel that they must go, and have a burning message on their hearts that they feel must be delivered regardless of cost or conditions. We could possibly get many to go by offering them big salaries, comfortable homes, plenty to eat, and fine evangelistic equipment, with honors attached to their names, but God cannot use that kind of workers. If you love God, and are willing to sacrifice and dedicate yourself, as those in the BEGINNING, to the service of the Lord, write the overseer of Texas or any other state overseer; they will help you get started. But if you are looking for the biggest churches, large crowds, good choirs, plenty of money, I would advise you to stay with your job, pay your tithes and offerings, and help others to go. We have hundreds of struggling little churches with a membership of poor people that need help. And there are thousands of open doors in new fields where men and women who have the message and are willing to sacrifice could win souls and establish churches.

A young man once left Bible School and went out into the evangelistic
(Continued on page 15)

RELIGION AND THE WORLD

By the Editor

Church Destruction

The Church of England has had 163 church buildings destroyed and 1,289 damaged. The Baptists have had about 800 destroyed or damaged and the Congregationalists about the same number as against 1,316 Methodist buildings damaged or destroyed.

The Bible and Missions

Of the 1,055 translations of the Bible into languages or dialects, these reach about 95 per cent of the world's population, with a reported 40 per cent able to read. In India twelve out of one hundred are reported as able to read, while in Africa only seven out of each one hundred can read.

Insecurity

"For the bed is shorter than a man can stretch himself on it, and the covering narrower than he can wrap himself in it," Isa. 28:20. Here is the picture of the nation of Israel when she trusted in her own strength and in alliances with other nations. The result is obvious. As a nation she neither had security or rest. The result will be the same if an individual trusts in his own righteousness instead of the grace of God.

Owe No Man Anything

But to love one another (Rom. 13:8). What does this scripture mean? In plain, unmistakable language, it means exactly what it says. It means do not mortgage the future with promises to pay and then by neglectfulness and extravagance or some misfortune destroy your influence by not paying or being able to pay. Christians should stop buying so many needless things on credit. I always felt so embarrassed to ask for credit. The individual and certainly the Church would have more influence and many more souls saved if there wasn't so many unpaid bills that destroy and stultify the influence of the Church. Now mock on.

500,000 Jews Murdered

LONDON, (JTA)—The 60,000 Greek Jews who were deported from their homeland to "unknown destinations"

in the spring and summer of last year perished in the gas chambers of the dread Oswiecim "death camp" in Poland, it was disclosed by the Polish Ministry of Information here. Most of the Greek Jews had been residents of Salonika or Athens.

The Polish report asserted that more than 500,000 persons have been murdered at Oswiecim since its establishment. Of these, the great majority were Jews, including, in addition to the Greek Jews, 50,000 from Czechoslovakia, 60,000 from Holland, Belgium, and France, and tens of thousands of Polish Jews.

The Oswiecim camp has three crematoriums capable of consuming 10,000 bodies daily, the report asserts. The executions in the gas chambers take about fifteen minutes, immediately after which the bodies are taken to a crematorium. Because of a shortage of gas, Jews who were not yet asphyxiated were frequently placed in the crematorium, the report adds.—*California Jewish Voice*.

Cigarettes Injurious

Ty Cobb said, "Cigarette smoking stupifies the brain, saps vitality, undermines health, and weakens moral fiber. No one who hopes to be successful in any line can afford to contract so detrimental a habit." Gene Tunney, now in charge of all Naval physical training and athletics, said: "It's over thirteen years since I retired from the heavyweight championship. But here's a challenge: If Joe Louis will start smoking and promise to inhale a couple of packages of cigarettes every day for six months, I'll engage to lick him in fifteen mental capacities of the individual, resulting from damage to nerves, blood vessels, heart and other vital structures." He further said: "While I was training for my second fight with Jack Dempsey I was offered \$15,000 to endorse a certain brand of cigarettes. I didn't want to be rude, so in declining I merely said I didn't smoke. Next day the advertising man came back with another offer: \$12,000 if I would let my picture be used with the statement that 'Stinkes must be good, because all my friends smoke them.' That compelled me to say that I

thought cigarettes were a foul pestilence, and that advertising which promoted their use was a national menace."

What Blocked the Revival

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" (Matt. 5:9, Golden Text). "We were gathered to pray for a revival. After some hymns and prayers the meeting was thrown open. The silence of death settled upon the audience. Everyone waited. Presently a leading elder arose in a front seat, and said: 'I don't think there is going to be a revival here so long as Brother Jones and I don't speak to each other.' He left his pew, walked down the aisle, and found Brother Jones, and said: 'Brother Jones, you and I have not spoken for five years. Let's bury the hatchet. Here's my hand.' The old man returned to his pew and sat down. A sob broke from the audience, and then there was silence again. Presently I was witnessing the strangest scene of my life. For ten minutes men and women crept noiselessly about the house, squaring old scores. Then God began to visit them. Operatives in a factory near by heard what was going on, and at the lunch hour many of them came over. The pastor preached to them the simple gospel, and within five minutes four of the ringleaders in sin in that community were crying to God for mercy. A revival broke out that swept over the district for three years."—*Sunday School Times*.

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THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

Her Last Drink

A WARNING TO PARENTS

A beautiful, intelligent young lady went to a tent meeting. The power of God was in the meeting. Sinners were being saved and saints being edified. The Spirit of God brought conviction to this young woman and tears began to flow down her cheeks. She took her handkerchief and wiped them away.

Her father, a wealthy farmer, stood on the outside with others. He looked across the tent and saw his daughter weeping. He remarked to a friend: "If my daughter goes to the front I will wade blood to my neck to take her out of there." But a young man was standing by her side and she did not go that night. The father got into his machine and drove home, and the young man took the young lady home in the buggy. When she got inside she saw him—a big, 240-pound father—walking the floor, and she knew that something was wrong. She said, "Papa, what is the matter with you? Why are you not in bed?" He answered, "I have stayed up to give you your orders." She said, "Papa, what in the world have I done?" He replied, "I looked across that tent tonight and I saw you weeping, saw you have your handkerchief up to your eyes. Mae, if you go to that front seat I will wade through blood to my neck to take you out of there, and when I get you home, I will wear out a hickory over your back."

He put it down so strong that she knew he meant what he said. She began to weep and went to her room, and there in the darkness she settled it that she would not go with God. She closed her fists and said: "O God, I will never seek Thee! Take this feeling away from me! O God, lighten my heart! I do not want to feel this way. I will never seek Thee! Take this burden away from my heart!" God heard her prayer. The Holy Spirit left her, and her conviction was gone. She went to bed and went to sleep. Because you can go to bed and go to sleep, do not think you are saved. Many people go to bed and go to sleep to whom God will never speak again.

The next morning this young lady got up and went to school, came back, and went to the service that night. Her father stood in the same place as the night before, and kept his eye upon her. He saw her standing with a young man, laughing. He took his neighbor by the arm and said, "Look at my daughter. I conquered her last night before I went to bed. She will never go." So this girl laughed and giggled while other folks wept and got saved.

But listen! The meeting closed on Sunday night, and settled the destiny of dying men and women. The tents were taken down, and the preachers left the grounds. On Monday morning this girl went to school as usual, and went all that week. The next Monday morning, as she started, she said, "Mamma, my head is hurting me." The mother said, "Mae, go on to school," and Mae went, but returned in two or three hours and said, "Mamma, my head is hurting me so that I couldn't stay." She went to her room and went to bed. She had been in bed three days, when, on Thursday afternoon, she sent for her mother to come up, and said, "Mamma, I am sure that you and papa do not know my condition, and I want you to send for a doctor. I am in an awful condition and I am going to die." The mother was excited, and said, "I will, I will!"

She had the family physician come, and he felt her pulse and took her temperature. He touched the big, strong father on the shoulder and asked him to come outside to the automobile. He loved the family. They had been kind to him. He said, "You have been kind to me, and I must be true to you. You have called me too late. Your daughter will soon be in eternity, and if you have anything to tell her, tell her at once. It is no use for me to tell you that I can help her, or to call for more doctors. In a few hours she will be gone." Listen! The neighbors a mile away heard that father. What do you suppose was the first thing he thought of? I know—the night that he conquered his daughter and made her settle with God. He left the auto-

mobile and came in wringing his hands. He fell at her bedside and said, "O Mae! O Mae!" Seek the Lord. Mae, pray! Give your heart to God! Pray, Mae, pray!" She put her hand on his face and said, "Papa, please do not taunt me with the name of God—please do not mention His name to me. My heart has been like a stone since the night you gave me my orders. I went to my room, and I asked God to leave me, and God took me at my word."

Then she told him that she was conscious that her doom was sealed, and that from the beginning of her illness she knew she was going to die. She said, "Papa, what time is it?" He answered, "Four o'clock in the afternoon." She said, "How slowly these hours are passing away! But, just think, I am going to a place where there will be no time."

They had built a new home out on the pike, and their old home stood back in the field, with the old moss-covered well and moss-covered bucket. She said, "Papa, go to the old moss-covered well and bring me a fresh drink of water, for I will soon be in a place where I can get no water." He went and brought the water and put it to her lips, and she drank it. Her mother was praying, her unsaved brother was praying, and her two unsaved sisters were down on the floor praying. Oh, I have heard the loudest prayers from sinners praying for their loved ones, that I ever heard from anybody's lips. I have heard louder prayers around corpses than I ever heard anywhere else; but I had to rebuke the prayers, and say, "Do not mock God by praying for your dead loved ones." This dying girl said, "Papa, put your hands under my arms, and pull me up in this bed. My feet are in fire. My feet are slipping." He put his hands beneath her, and drew her up in the bed. Again she said, "Papa, my feet are slipping. Take my feet out of the fire." He said, "Mae, I have done all I can. Your head is against the head of the bed." She said, "Papa, go back to the old well again, and bring your daughter another drink of water." He went for the water, but before he got back, his beautiful daughter had gone into eternity.

Listen, friends, that father goes to town to buy hardware or groceries, and he stands over the counter like a maniac, and the merchant has to talk

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Churches

By Jonathan D. Bright

Assistant General Overseer, Western District

Part I. ORIGINS

INTRODUCTION

The study of churches, little or large, in the city or elsewhere and everywhere, surely is of interest to all unprejudiced church members regardless of their denominational, racial, social, or creed relation.

With this thought in mind, augmented by an overwhelming love and burden for especially the little, struggling churches, I welcome you to a more definite study of CHURCHES in a few articles that I am passing on to you.

ORIGINS BY A FAMILY

Nothing could be so disconcerting to a family of devoted Church of God members as to move to a town where there is no church of their faith to attend. Therefore, many churches have had their limited yet courageous beginning due to such circumstances. This is not only reminiscent of Noah and Joshua, but is also a reminder of Rev. — Dean, of North Carolina, who once said, "Praise God, when I go to a new place I have enough in my family to organize a Church of God."

Nothing could be more certain than such eventual growth of a church having such a beginning than its ultimate envelopment by interested people of the community casting their lots with them, and then, of course, the thought of a family church should terminate.

God bless all who find it necessary and wise to start a church in this manner.

PRAYER MEETINGS

No person with a slight knowledge of the Bible and considerable experience in prayer would lightly estimate the value of prayer, individually and collectively.

It is not only a fact that prayer is one of the most effective exercises in maintaining a church, but out of prayer meetings where expressions were free and fellowship was rich, have come some of the most substan-

tial churches in the movement.

Do I think that prayer meetings, with the thought of ultimately establishing churches in communities, should be conducted today? I certainly do. I remember that the first Church of God meeting for the Gentiles was in Cornelius' home. You remember about Lydia and the women in prayer meeting in Philippi, down by the river, and how Paul preached to them and later organized the prayer band into a Church of God.

To have prayer meetings all about over the community where the church bell and chimes can be easily heard, for the sake of lazy people who won't attend church, or to give a few overzealous and many times disloyal members the chance to have free-for-all services, especially on Sunday afternoon, when they leave their prayer meetings—where they had a "wonderful time"—so hoarse they can't sing, and go to sleep while the pastor suffers and preaches, then leave before the altar service is over, sometimes remarking, "What a dry service," **SHOULD BE OUT FOREVER.**

REMEMBER, I am for prayer meetings that turn into churches or that **HELP** the local church and pastor, but not for those that create confusion.

MACEDONIAN

If I have a stronger sentiment toward either group of these baby churches, it is for this one. I have decided to call it the Macedonian because I have in mind those isolated groups of Christians who, by various means, have been led to the Lord Jesus, but who, upon being converted, found themselves to be lost for the lack of a pastor and a church home.

I have had the privilege of answering a few of these orphan calls and, although it was easy to see that the group, when organized, due to location, animosity of other people against their faith, financial conditions, etc., would not be able to develop into a giant church, they deserved a church home and I helped them to get it.

MISSION

If a statistical check-up were to be made, I imagine we would find that numbers of our large churches had their initiation through humble missions of different kinds in the slums or rural districts.

Many mission organizers who were of the opinion that their affiliation with a denomination would hinder

their efforts for God and put them in a governmental strait-jacket, were eventually convinced that in unity there is strength. Of course, they brought themselves and their missions to us.

Then we have found that our best approach to establishing a church in some places has been through mission enterprises. Generally, such projects for the Church of God are sponsored either by a local church, from the state mission treasury, or funds especially appropriated at Headquarters. Now and then a minister has the courage and faith to carry on without depending on any treasury. We need more of their courage.

Two things are to be kept in mind. One is that we have such departments in every local church to enable us to carry on effective mission work, therefore it is always with the thought in mind of turning the organized mission enterprises into up-and-going Churches of God. The second is that no preacher or layman is to launch an undertaking like this without being authorized to do so by his district overseer and the local pastor.

The first church I pastored was the result of a mission revival in a store building. I pastored the fourteen-member church in the store building but in a short time the church built and moved into their own Church of God home.

Preachers—with no place to work?? open your eyes and look about you. Now pray through! Then see your local pastor and see if he and the district overseer won't at least give you the green light. God bless you.

CAMPAIGNS

I wouldn't have any of you, who are contemplating big evangelistic campaigns, take a defeatist attitude, but there is a possibility that after the big prayerful preaching push is over and you come to the climatic service, instead of being able to shout over a landslide you can count on your hands once or multiplied by two the number who line up to join the church. If this happens to be the case, just read Noah's history again for inspiration. Think of the twelve that Jesus started His work with, and praise God for the brave hearts who are willing to be the charter members of the Church of God in that respective place. With this attitude you can put not only one thousand demons to

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The Eloquence of an Orator: Henry Ward Beecher

(1813-87)

By ANDREW W. BLACKWOOD

This man appears to have been a preaching genius. Many of us can learn more from such a talented minister as Brooks, but it should make us humble to learn the facts about Beecher. We should remember that he had to work with all his might. Only the ineffectual pulpiteer dares often to depend on the inspiration of the hour. Even a genius has to learn all that he knows.

The facts about this pulpit orator are fairly accessible. The best biography is by Lyman Abbott, his successor at Plymouth Church in Brooklyn. Equally revealing is the first series of *Yale Lectures* by H. W. Beecher. Also at secondhand one can purchase volumes of his *Plymouth Sermons*, and a book of *Plymouth Prayers*. There is an interesting recent work, *Beecher's Speaking Art* (1937), by Lionel Crocker. All these facts suggest a study in the personality of our foremost pulpit orator.

I. Let us begin with *The Preparation of the Pulpit Orator*. In a sense his country made Beecher strong. He was distinctively an American. Reared in rural New England, he had a sturdy physique, a love of nature, a habit of working hard and a fund of varied knowledge. Spending his early manhood in what was then the Middle West, he imbibed its progressive spirit. To the end of his days this man's pulpit work breathed the air of the wide open places. Going to Brooklyn at the age of thirty-six, he found there a platform for all his varied powers. All the while he was influenced more and more by the South, and by the oncoming War between the States.

In a deeper sense the state of the times developed our pulpit orator. That now seems to have been the golden age of American preaching. Never before or since have we had at one time such pulpit masters as Bushnell and Brooks, Beecher and Channing, as well as a larger circle of men scarcely less gifted. In the pulpit work of Beecher, after he went to Brooklyn, one can distinguish three stages. They correspond roughly with the swiftly moving panorama of United States history. In the years before the War (1849-61) he stressed evangelism. During that conflict he gave more

heed to ethics. After the coming of peace he devoted himself more largely to pulpit teaching. Of course these statements oversimplify the facts. All the while Beecher stood forth as the pulpit orator par excellence.

From another point of view, his heredity made him strong. True as that was, on both sides of his house, the truth matters little to us practically. No one of us now can choose such parents! Much more encouraging is it to learn that Beecher made himself a mighty man in the pulpit. While in college and seminary, as well as in the first years of pastoral work, he did not find himself. At the age of twenty-six he began really to "possess his possessions." Then he made a careful study of his times, and of preaching as an art. He went back to master preachers of other days, such as Barrow and South. Moved by their sermons he gradually worked out his own philosophy of pulpit work. And yet we often refer to him as a "born preacher"!

After his course of self-directed graduate study in homiletics, he determined to stress the love of God. Once when he spoke to the students at Princeton Seminary he chose as his subject, "Fishers of Men." Then he made a moving plea for evangelism. Later his growing sense of human needs led him also to emphasize the rights of men. In after years he spoke much about progress, perhaps more than our twentieth century history has warranted. At any rate, he always strove to meet the needs of his hearers.

II. Let us now consider *the Personality of the Pulpit Orator*. That is what many a congregation longs for now. In every way Beecher was impressive. In appearance he resembled a lion, but without any semblance of ferocity. Carefully this minister guarded his health. He learned how to make the most of his remarkable body. In the pulpit he gave the impression of vitality that overflowed in speech. Above all did he train his voice. As a lad he could not easily make himself understood in ordinary talk. As a minister he toiled under a master coach. In time Beecher learned how to whisper like a cooling dove, or roar like a

storm at sea. Whatever the volume or the pitch, he made himself easily audible. As a master of public speech he knew how to play on all the pipes in a majestic organ.

All the while he was impulsive. The books on psychology now exalt the man of the reflective temperament. Such persons have had their own vast places in the sun. But did not Amos and Peter, Luther and Whitefield, Beecher and a host of others represent the impulsive type? In fact, one could make an impressive list of impulsive preachers, as illustrious as any student of history can find among reflective folk. So be yourself, young man, your very best self!

Impulsive Beecher developed all sorts of heart appeal. His preaching displayed almost endless variety, most of it worthy. Outside the pulpit he may at times have seemed like a child who never grew up. Hence he became the chief party in the most scandalous lawsuit of its kind in all our history. Doubtless he never had committed adultery. At least he was acquitted, and he kept on preaching with power. Everyone felt, however, that he must have been most indiscreet. Beware!

That impressive personality became more and more imaginative. Beecher came to Brooklyn at a time when most strong men of God gloried in their logic. He had moved among common people enough to know that many hearts felt half starved. Hence he set himself to meet the needs of mortals who could see and feel, as well as listen and think. Because he dared to use imagination, he was sometimes accused of being a heretic. Obviously, he was no scholar or theologian. Rather did he win a hearing by his knowledge of the human heart.

This pulpit orator fed his imagination with facts. He exercised it as carefully as any part of his body. Wherever he moved he could find "sermons in stones, books in running brooks, and good in everything." Like Spurgeon, Beecher could learn how to preach by walking through the open country. His kind of pulpit work called for facts, facts, facts. Hence he would have accepted the overstatement of a

(Continued on page 15)

Awake

Eph. 5:14, "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and CHRIST shall give thee light."

Dear readers, greetings from a soldier in the U. S. Army, somewhere in England. I have felt for sometime a great desire to write a word of testimony to the Evangel, of which I am a regular reader, using the above scripture text as a starting point.

Five years ago this month I awoke from a deep sleep, so to speak, when the glorious gospel of the blessed Son of God shone on me. I was found a sinner, dead in trespasses and sins. Eph. 2:1. In CHRIST I found the light that led me out of darkness into regeneration, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Praise God for evermore.

Comparing natural things and happenings, with the scriptural, it is the general opinion of the world that for the past years, before the war, our nation has been asleep, while the enemy has been preparing to destroy the things that are right. We were awakened the hard way—PEARL HARBOR.

The words of the Apostle in the text were spoken to a group of believers at Ephesus. They seemed to be slumbering, at least some of them. We who are kept by the power of God can realize that there is a battle to be fought and a victory to be won by the TRUE CHURCH OF GOD. The Apostle said, in Eph. 6:12, "For we wrestle not

against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." I am afraid there are times when we as Christians do not really realize the value of the WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD. Eph. 6:13. No doubt, there are people in our churches today that are slumbering and sleeping, like the five foolish virgins spoken of by Jesus in the 25th chapter of Matthew, failing to keep the oil (oil representing the Holy Ghost) and their lamps trimmed and burning. I wonder if the call were sounded this moment, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him," how many would be prepared to meet Him in the air. Oh, let each of us, as soldiers of the cross, "awake to righteousness and SIN NOT." 1 Cor. 15:34.

I, along with the whole world of God's children, am very fervently hoping and praying for a great ALLIED VICTORY in the near future; but let us remember that without victory in our churches, over sin and Satan, and a strong faith in a living Savior, the world would still be in darkness.

Eph. 5:14, "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."

May God add His blessing to these humble words as a message from the heart of a Christian soldier who is interested in the salvation of lost souls. Remember us in prayer.

The Necessity of Prayer: Oh, How Great!

By MARY SMITH

James 5:16, "Confess your faults one to another; and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

For some time God has put it upon my heart to write a message to the Evangel. Since being in a soul-stirring revival at Starkville, Miss., I feel the call more than ever, and the subject "Prayer" appeals to me most.

In these dark and gloomy days of war and bloodshed, of tears and partings from loved ones so dear, even to our boys amid the roar of guns and the smoke of the battlefield, there shines a light that leads us safely from this scene of turmoil to a place of refuge and peace. That light is prayer to God Almighty. He will hear and answer our prayers. Matt. 21:22, "And all things, whatsoever ye shall

ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." We have only to ask and believe and our needs are supplied.

We read of the incident recorded in the Bible of how, when Daniel was cast in the lions' den, the lions' jaws were locked in answer to effectual, fervent prayer.

Again, when the three Hebrew children, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, were cast into the fiery furnace, made seven times hotter than ever fire had been made, they were not burned because they were praying, God-fearing men.

We find in James 5:17 that Elias, a man of prayer and subject to like passions as we are, prayed earnestly that it might not rain and it rained not for three years and six months. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Oh, the necessity of prayer! My God! that there were more praying people who would still pray the effectual fervent prayer of which the Bible bears record. Let's give more time to prayer and meditation with God. And those of us who are chosen of God to carry His gospel, remember it's the ones who stay on their knees the most that are more blessed of God and that win the most souls for Him. Christian brothers and sisters, let us unite in prayer to God that He will bring about a world-wide revival and that souls will be brought to Him as never before. Let us take heed, watch, and pray, for we know not when the time is. Mark 13:33. Men should pray without ceasing. 1 Thess. 5:17. Pray and faint not. Luke 18:1. Effectual fervent prayers that avail much are the greatest necessity of today.

Revival

We thank the Lord for the two weeks' revival that has just closed. Many souls were blessed. We thank God for the souls that were saved and for those who received the Holy Ghost. God was with us in a great way. Our pastor was the evangelist. We thank God for our good pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister Cordell Ellis. The Lord is working in a wonderful way at the Dividing Ridge Church of God. Pray for us that this will be the greatest year.—Your sister in Christ, Viola Millard, Soddy, Tenn., Rt. 2.



Missions • Missionaries



M. P. CROSS, Executive Mission Secretary

International Christian Brotherhood

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL NATIONS

THE FLOOD IN MEXICO

"I visited Tuxtepec and a few other places which were in the flooded area. To sum up the whole affair, I shall say that the people were left in a terrible condition. Their plantations were destroyed and many lives were lost, since the flood came at night and arose so suddenly. Tuxtepec is located in the bend of the river and was almost completely destroyed. Both of our churches were scattered for many yards around. Our poor brethren of these churches were left without home, without clothing, and the ones who had animals (hogs, horses, chickens, etc.) have nothing now. The pastor, Brother Daniel Vazquez, was left with nothing more than a few books which one of the sisters of the church saved. We had members who stayed two days and nights in tree tops waiting for the waters to subside.

"Brother Ruesga and I took approximately one thousand pieces of clothing to distribute among our people, but within a few hours, these were exhausted and with tears in our eyes we had to refuse many of our good consecrated brothers and sisters and their children.

"I received word from Brother Moises Manzo of the State of Chiapas that many of the members of his various congregations were drowned. Where at one time he had held services, the brethren who survived the flood had left in search of work.

"I arrived in these flooded areas before the water subsided from the houses and I saw one woman fall dead in the street from fright and hunger. I saw people sleeping out in the rain without any bedclothing whatsoever, and little children without any clothes. In and around the church I counted seven hogs that had drowned and floated to that region. One cannot imagine the odor that exists along the banks of the Papaloapan River. Tuxtepec was not the only place where we lost churches and members, but it certainly was hard hit.

During the Flood



After the Flood



"I am enclosing some pictures showing the existing conditions and I will

mail you one of the church in a few days."—Vessie D. Hargraves.

Reports from the Field

The Lord Has Helped Us

The Church of God at Dalton, Ga., with Brother H. M. Duck, pastor, was honored to have Rev. John C. Jernigan, our new General Overseer, and Sister Jernigan with us on Sunday, October 29, also some students from B. T. S., Sevierville, Tenn.

It was on this day that we raised \$51.12 for the aged ministers' fund. We truly praise the Lord for what He has helped us do for these dear old soldiers of the cross.

We Do Not Doubt God

DETROIT 11, Mich.—I praise God for His love and tender mercy toward me, for saving me one day and filling my heart with the Holy Ghost, with one mind to run for Jesus.

Thank the Lord for our little mission here in Detroit. We are having a one-hour prayer service every Tuesday night for the Lord to bless our work here.

Thank the Lord for our pastor, he is a humble man of God; also our deacon, Elder Fred LaFleur. Pray that the Lord will bless our work. We have only a little mission but we are striving to have a church. We are few in number but we do not doubt God. Please pray for our work. Our mission is located at 9345 Brush St.—Anna Durham (colored), 8723 Russell St.

Hazlehurst, Ga., Church of God Reports

Our new pastor, Rev. and Mrs. Tommie Harper, and little daughter Elizabeth were heartily received and given a warm welcome and miscellaneous shower at the prayer meeting on Wednesday night, September 13, which was the beginning of his pastorate with us. The church had previously secured an apartment in one of the best homes in our city.

We have started the new year with a zealous and prayerful determination to do more for God than ever before, and with His help are expecting the best year, spiritually, in the history of our church. God is already wonderfully blessing us. The congregations have more than doubled, the church being unable to seat the congregation on Sunday nights. It is estimated that there are half as many outside who

cannot be seated, and instead of sitting in cars and standing around talking, they are crowded around the door and on the steps listening to the sermon. Brother Harper is giving us some great messages, preaching the gospel straight from the Bible, which brings forcibly to our minds the Bible truth, "If Christ be lifted up, he will draw all men unto him."

Our Sunday School and prayer meetings on Wednesday night have also doubled in attendance. Much interest is being shown and God's presence is felt in these services. Further, we have just bought and paid for a nice 50x150-foot lot and are planning on having a parsonage on it in the very near future.

Brother Harper is planning great things, spiritually and materially, for our church, and we are expecting God's continued blessings upon us.—Reporting Committee, Hope Jordan, chairman.

Services Get Better

LAKE ODESSA, Mich.—I am glad to report how God has helped the people of the Church of God at Lake Odessa, Mich., to draw even closer to Him. Even though we have a small

membership, the Lord has blessed us in a wonderful way. Six were filled with the precious Holy Spirit and it has set our church on fire for God.

Rev. Henry Sideimaer, our pastor, has really been giving us some real food for our souls (nonrationed). It seems that every service is just a little better than the last one, making one regret missing a single service. Our pastor has been very faithful in the service in which he has been called. The members of the Church of God have been very faithful and are doing all they can trying to go forth for God.

Our Sunday School attendance record was recently boosted to eighty, for which we feel thankful to God. We have had several good rally meetings throughout the summer and they have been largely attended.

I would like to mention our Ladies' Willing Workers' Band. We have been enjoying a revival among its members. God has helped our Willing Workers' Band and we take new courage in going forth in this work.

We also have enjoyed good Y.P.E. services under the splendid leadership of Sister Lenore Shellenbarger. When you pray, we wish you might make mention of the Church of God of Lake Odessa, Mich., that God will send us a revival.—Mrs. Dorothea Manning, Rt. 3.

SPECIAL SALE ON OIL PAINTINGS

We have 15,000 oil varnished paintings of the following titles: "Christ Knocking at the Door," "The Birth of Christ," "Christ and the Rich Young Ruler," "The Star of Bethlehem," "The Last Supper," "The Good Shepherd," "Returning From Calvary," "Christ in Gethsemane." Size 12x16 inches.

Prices for 500 or more, \$10.00 per hundred; 100 at \$11.00; 50 at \$6.00; 25 at \$3.15; 10 at \$1.30.

These beautiful paintings retail at 25c each. Here is a chance to make easy money for whatever may be the needs of your church.

No order accepted for less than ten pictures.

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REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

The healing of our two-year-old baby who is in a serious condition with a growth of some kind in her stomach. It is so large she can hardly walk and it is growing very fast. If God doesn't undertake, she can't last long. We are members of the Church of God at Summiton, Ala. Please pray earnestly at once.—Brother Marvin Burns, Summiton, Ala.

The Lord to heal my body and give me faith sufficient; the healing of my sisters. We do not have a Church of God here.—Maud Welch, Piggs, Okla.

The healing of Fronie Brown's head; her address is Rt. 4, Oxford, Ala. The healing of Mrs. W. A. Gore, Bowdon, Ga., Rt. 2; Alton Robinson to be healed of T.B., U.S.V.H. E2, Oteen, N. C.; the Lord to heal my throat; my nephew overseas.—Mrs. C. C. Harris.

The healing of my body, I am not so well.—Mrs. A. B. Chance, Shipyard Acreage, Napa, Calif.

The healing of my brother, Henry Oneal Oliver, who was in training in the Army and had a nervous breakdown, which has affected him physically and mentally, the doctor says it is his heart partly. He asks for prayer as he realizes his condition; the healing of my throat, I have something like a goitre, also have a digestive disorder.—Mrs. Fletcher Bryant, Linden, Ala.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. R. E. Crawley, 2555 Beniteau, Detroit 14, Mich.

The healing of my father, he fell downstairs on the 9th of November and threw eight vertebrae out of place and injured his neck very badly. He is a wonderful Christian and has wonderful faith in divine healing. Also pray that the Lord will supply the means financially.—Mrs. James Plotner, Uhrichsville, Ohio.

The healing of my son, he is in a critical condition and it seems only God can change matters.—Mrs. Burley Thomas, Rt. 2, c/o Mack Alexander, Adamsville, Ala.

God to undertake for me.—Mrs. C. F. L.

The healing of my body, I am so nervous at times I can hardly bear it; pray for my two brothers somewhere on foreign soil, both sinners. I

will appreciate encouragement.—Novella Kernell, c/o Guard Headquarters, Anderson Div., Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Me to be healed of neuritis and other ailments; unspoken request.—Mrs. Nora Hunter, Rt. 2, Blue Ridge, Ga.

My mother who is in a bad condition.—Mrs. Olivia Flowers, Bay Minette, Ala.

The healing of Sam Brewington, Rt. 5, Gaffney, S. C., who has been in bed about four and a half months with a stroke of paralysis.—Richard Earnhardt, Rt. 5, Box 126, Gaffney, S. C.

Me to be healed; my daughter who has appendicitis; my crippled daughter; my mother to be healed.—Mrs. Bob Young, Section, Ala.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Lorene Rhinehart, Rule, Texas.

My father to be healed; my baby to be healed; me to be healed of heart, stomach and back trouble.—Mrs. George M. Taylor, Rt. 1, Alma, Ga.

My mother who is seriously ill with flu; very special unspoken request.—Claudie Boswell, Rt. 1, Heflin, Ala.

My son, Cpl. Russell L. Shuping, who is missing in action since Oct. 20; my unsaved husband; me.—Mrs. J. L. Shuping, Sunray, Tex.

My son in the South Pacific.—C. L. Washington, 3800 Dam Road, Richmond, Calif.

The healing of my body; my thirteen-year-old girl's healing; my nephews overseas.—Mrs. Zephher Davis, Rt. 1, Troy, Tenn.

The healing of Mrs. Bonnie Jones.—Mrs. Lula L. Jones, Yankeetown, Fla.

The healing of my husband's body. he has been sick over a year and isn't much better.—Mrs. E. Myres, Speedwell, Tenn.

— — —
BLISSFIELD, Mich.—Please pray for us here that God will give us another place to worship and a place to have Sunday School, as the other was taken from us. I know that all these things work together for the good of them that love Him, therefore, I am sure that God has something better for us here.

Brothers and sisters, the harvest truly is ripe here. Even the sinners here in Blissfield have wanted to pay the rent on a building so they could hear the Word of God. Oh, how hungry they are for the good old holiness

way. They can see that we have something they do not have. You can see how much in need of prayer this place is. The hour at this time is very dark here, but God is able to undertake, that I am sure. Again I ask, please pray for us here.—Willie E. Butts, 219 Russell St.

Took No Medicine

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—I have testimony of healing through faith. On my thumb was a felon. It would not open, neither could I open it for the pressure to be relieved. A doctor opened it and said I positively must have some rest medicine that day. I trusted God for ease and healing and took no medicine. The felon looked like it would never heal. It had to be redressed sometimes twice a day. I promised the Lord I would testify of it if He would heal it. Praise His name! That very day my thumb stopped draining and healed in a few days.

We have wonderful services at Hattiesburg and a real true father and friend for a pastor, Brother G. C. Dunn. We appreciate him. Pray for Brother and Sister Dunn's bodies to be completely healed. After each Sunday's service we have altar prayer and the Lord helps us to keep the good blessing of the message.—Mrs. Dorothy Bunton, Rt. 2.

Enjoy Working for Jesus

DAVIN, W. Va.—I truly praise God for a salvation that I can feel. God saved my soul March 16, 1939, and, thank God, I am saved today. God wonderfully sanctified me a few days after He saved me and on June 13 gloriously baptized me with the good Holy Ghost and fire. A short time after this He called me to preach His Word. It has always been my whole heart's desire to work for the Lord, but my husband has been in the mercantile business and, of course, something made me think he could not do all the work by himself, so I have neglected to work for God as I desired to, and have suffered untold agony because of my neglect; but thank God we are out of the store business now and I am planning to get started again to work for my Lord, for that is when I enjoy my salvation most—when I am working for Him. Please pray that God will direct me and use me for His glory. I read in God's Word where He said obedience is better than sacrifice and I surely want to be obedient.—Rinda Ramey.

NATIONAL BIBLE READING FROM THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS



Even Dad Reads the Bible

Historians seeking to discover the major influences that have moulded the course of American History find that the Bible has played a significant role. Within the pages of this greatest of all documents lies the inspiration for the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the Four Freedoms.

The Bible was the first textbook of the American colonies. It was the most important factor in the educational system of those years, for both in private and public schools the Bible was the chief text. In the New England Primer, used extensively in the elementary schools for more than a century before the Revolutionary War, characters from the Bible were used in teaching the three R's.

Making the Bible better known appeared to be the whole purpose of early American education. Of the ten colleges founded before the Revolution and still in existence, nine were begun to give adequate training to ministers of the gospel. These were Harvard, William and Mary, Yale, Princeton, Washington and Lee, Columbia, Brown, Rutgers and Dartmouth. The tenth, the University of Pennsylvania, developed from a charity school

founded by George Whitefield, the great Bible evangelist.

Thomas Jefferson, who was asked to frame the Declaration of Independence, was steeped in the Bible. Much of the beauty and clarity of his prose was acquired through years of reading of the New Testament, which he mastered in Greek, Latin, French and English in order to compile a collection of excerpts covering the life and teachings of Jesus.

Where but in the Bible had he learned that men are equal under God and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights? Jefferson was expressing in immortal phrases the convictions that had led to the Revolution and which men had first gleaned from the Word of God.

One of the very earliest acts of Congress was to approve the printing of a large edition of the Bible and officially recommend it to the people of the land. The desire to maintain the Bible's influence in American life led to the formation of the Bible Society movement whose purpose was to make the Bible available to every household in the rapidly expanding country. Nowadays this function is carried out on an infinitely broader

scale by the American Bible Society, founded in 1816, which prints millions of Bibles, Testaments and Scripture portions in many languages and dialects, and distributes them to the populations of teeming cities and to obscure people living in the remotest corners of the earth.

The influence of the Bible on American life has never waned, for each year since 1800 it has been a national best seller. In times of war, it is in greater demand than ever, among the men on the fighting fronts, prisoners of war and families praying for their loved ones to come home.

As the Bible guided the men who founded our republic, so today it guides the statesmen who are leading civilized nations out of the jungle of war, greed and prejudice. At the dramatic meeting of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, when the Atlantic Charter was given to the world, the Bible was read in a service of public worship. This was a symbolic incident, for the truths of God given in the Bible, chart the road to permanent peace and human brotherhood.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS December 2

ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 3

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

December 3

ISAIAH 40

A Selection

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of

the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

December 4 PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

December 5 ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS, CHAPTER 12

A Selection

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. . . .

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for

in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

December 6

CHAPTER 11 OF THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

A Selection

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae, of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

December 7

CHAPTER 7 OF ST. MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

A Selection—Jesus is Speaking
Ask, and it shall be given you; seek,

and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets:

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

December 8

ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 15

A Selection—Jesus is Speaking

I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. . . .

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Thankful for Healing of Child

DOUBLE SPRINGS, Ala.—Jesus is still on the throne and still in the healing business. Praise the Lord! My little granddaughter, who I wrote in for about three weeks ago, is now improving and is almost well. I sent for an anointed cloth while she was so low. I received the cloth on Friday and laid it on her body in Jesus' name and prayed for her. God wonderfully blessed and healed her. I thank everyone who prayed for her, but most of all I thank the Lord for healing her body.—Martha Sutherland, Rt. 1.

Echoes From Orlando, Fla.

The Orlando, Fla., church wishes to report that we are surely on the mountain top. Even before our new pastor, Brother Howell, and his good wife and family arrived, there were two saved in our Monday afternoon prayer meetings. We cannot say too much about these prayer meetings, as we feel they are a lot responsible for the wonderful spirit in the church now. If we will just keep our prayer life up-to-date, God will certainly come down in our services and bless souls.

We thank God for Brother and Sister Howell. They are certainly wonderful people and God has already blessed remarkably under his ministry here. The saints have been drawn closer to God, hearts have been touched and backsliders have returned to God.

Brother D. B. Yow and his singers, Brother and Sister Wroten Dunn, have just closed a successful revival here in Orlando. God has certainly been working. Some nights the old-time power of God would fall and souls would fill the altar without any preaching at all. Brother Yow is one of the most humble and prayerful men we have ever seen. Hardly a night of the revival passed that Brother Yow wasn't praying the bigger part of the night and many, many times all night long. The altar was always filled and sinners seemed to be unable to resist his Holy-Ghost-inspired messages. There were about twenty saved, six filled with the Holy Ghost and twelve added to the church. There have also been numerous healings through Brother Yow's prayers and unshakable faith in God.

We in Orlando have learned to love Brother Yow and Brother and Sister Dunn, because we feel that they have brought us just a little nearer heaven. Brother Yow preaches the straight, true gospel and his work is built on the Rock. Everywhere he goes people have really been established, God has blessed and the Church has received a new vision of God and His wonderful love and power.—Mrs. Margaret Wade, Box 3402.

Now Help Us Shout

Dear Evangel Readers and all the dear ones who have helped us pray for a church here, it is time to shout—your prayers are answered. All glory and praise to the marvelous name of

Jesus!

One year ago this summer, Brother C. M. Jenkerson, our state overseer at that time, came to Indianapolis, and by the help of the Lord found a building, which the church bought, and by the help of the Lord and with much hard labor he soon had a nice place for us to worship the Lord. We praise the Lord for Brother Jenkerson; we feel that he and his wife did a wonderful work for Indiana.

In October, 1943, Brother C. E. Swenson came here to pastor the church, which, at that time, had only seven members. Brother Swenson is a fine pastor and a personal worker as well. He and his wife have the church here at this place on their hearts.

About the first of June we stretched the tent and God poured out His blessings on us in a wonderful revival which lasted as long as the weather was warm enough, then we had to move back into the building, but we took the revival with us.

Our latest report is forty saved, eighteen sanctified, eight baptized with the glorious Holy Ghost, thirteen baptized in water (with six more to be baptized later), and about thirty to be added to the church. By the help of the Lord we expect to buy the lot where we had the tent, and put

up a larger building. Bless the Lord. We have outgrown the old one in one year. Come on, dear saints, let's give our glorious Savior a love offering of praise for His mercy that endureth forever and His goodness to His people. Glory and praise to His matchless name forevermore. Amen.—The Indianapolis Church of God.

Wonderful Revival

DRESSEN, Ky.—We praise the Lord for the great revival at Dressen, Ky., conducted by our pastor, Brother J. P. Morgan. Many were blessed of the Lord. We were graciously favored with His divine presence in each service. It was the greatest we have had here. The saints were revived and many souls were stirred and interested.

We thank the Lord for our newly established church, which is just three months old. Brother Morgan is a real man of God, one who really loves the Lord.

During our revival eighteen were converted, thirteen sanctified, twelve filled with the Holy Ghost, sixteen baptized in water, and eighteen added to the church, making a total of forty-three members.

Pray for us as we go into the work of God, that we may harvest the grain while it is ripe.—Edd Owens, clerk.

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THE ELOQUENCE OF AN ORATOR

(Continued from page 7)

current college professor: "Three-fourths of writing well consists in giving definite, well-chosen details, and plenty of them. The other fourth doesn't matter!"

Somehow Beecher has gained the reputation of having shaken each successive sermon out of his capacious coat sleeve. On the contrary, his neighbor and well-wisher, Theodore Cuyler, of Brooklyn, tells us that Beecher "prepared most of his discourses carefully, and full one-half of many of them was written out." In the pulpit, however, he spoke so naturally that he seemed to be simply opening up his heart and letting the hearer see how it beat with love for God and men.

Needless to say, Beecher's pulpit work was illustrative. He related few anecdotes and he made few quotations, partly because of his poor verbal memory. But he employed an endless succession of analogies, drawn from almost every field of human experience. For instance, here is a sermon chosen almost at random. The date is June 27, 1875. The subject is timely, "The Communion of Saints." In the days that follow a bloody war people wish to know about the state of the departed. Instead of depending on cold logic, Beecher tried to make the truth clear and luminous by the use of analogies.

At the risk of seeming commonplace, I give here a partial list. This one sermon points to a man in Europe, one of the lower animals looking up, a little child, a castle, a garden, a bird, a battle, another child, a house, a hornet, a home, a field of potatoes, a piece of gold, still another child, a valley, a polyp, a pinpoint and a plank, an anchor, a piece of pottery, and a suit of armor. What a succession of motion pictures!

Last of all, Beecher's personality was bound to be impassioned. He spoke mightily because he felt tremendously. In the study he worked his way to the heart of the truth he intended to proclaim. At any one time he had on hand many sermons in various stages of preparation. When at last his heart told him that a certain message was ready, he went into the pulpit with his heart burning. Then he shared that fire with the friend in the pew. As a rule Beecher spoke in a conversational tone. But his

conversation was always animated. Sometimes it seemed to be inspired. In short, he let his heart catch on fire, and then he used all his God-given powers in setting other hearts on fire. Is not this what many of our lay friends wish whenever they come to church?

My young friend, it may be that the God of all wisdom is calling you to some such ministry. If so, beware! The pulpit orator must watch out for all sorts of pitfalls. When he stands beneath the spotlight he may strive to become only a showman. He may even lead silly folk to fall down and worship him, instead of God. Nevertheless, not all the laymen who long for pulpit oratory can be counted fools. Have they no right to hear the man who is able to lift them up to the mountain top where they can look away to the City of God?

HER LAST DRINK

(Continued from page 5)

to him to find out what he wants. He goes to the field to plow, but he does not plow. He goes to salt the cattle, but forgets to take the salt. When he goes to market, he stands there and does not know what he wants. Everyone who knows the story knows what is the matter with that father; they know what is on his brain.

May this be a warning to parents not to obstruct the way of their children, and keep them from this free and full salvation that was purchased for us by Jesus Christ on the cruel cross of Calvary, which fits and prepares us for heaven and the glory world.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7).

"He, that being often reprov'd, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy" (Prov. 29:1).—*Christian Service.*

CHURCHES

(Continued from page 6)

fight but all of them to flight, bring more members to your number, build a church, and be a greater influence over the lost than the church with the highest steeple, finest pipe organ, most decorated pulpit, finest carpeted aisles and soft-cushioned pews, and its thousand or more members.

CONCLUSION

We are all to be interested in win-

ning the lost to Christ Jesus, so once we have won them it becomes our unquestionable duty to help them secure a church home.

Since coming to the West and making an extensive tour through Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, my love and appreciation has increased for small and faithful groups who are cooperating with God and His Church in the face of many and great odds.

As you pastors and members of small churches read this, and especially those of you to whom I have had the privilege of preaching, please know that my prayers are with you and for you that your church will grow and prosper.

The Lord help all of us ministers and members alike not to despise the day of infant churches, but pray that they will be blessed of God to become great.

THE BEGINNING

(Continued from page 3)

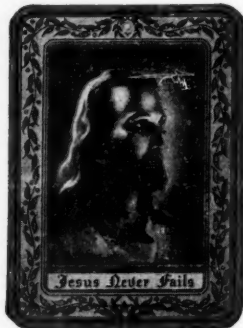
work. He found open doors into the already-established churches few, and wrote me a letter, saying, "Revivals are hard to find," and he wanted to know if I knew where he could find one. Men who go out hunting revivals will be disappointed. When Philip went down to Samaria he stirred up a revival among the people. God needs men and women who can go into a community and stir up a revival among the people.

Good Revival

FYFFE, Ala.—We thank the Lord for the good revival which ran August 5-20 at Strait Creek church where Brother T. B. Wesson is pastor. The revival was conducted by Brother S. W. Latimer, of Cleveland, Tenn. He had visited our church in the spring and had promised to come back for a revival. We had looked forward to the time, and when the time came, how we did enjoy those good messages on old-time holiness! We have never heard anyone preach that was listened to more attentively. The Lord surely blessed as night after night earnest seekers made their way to the altar. We do not know just how many were saved and sanctified. According to the report about nine received the Holy Ghost, including some reclaimed. Three joined the church and fifteen were baptized in water.—*Jessie L. Wesson, Rt. 2.*

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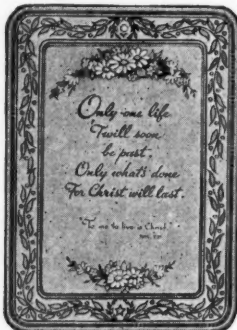
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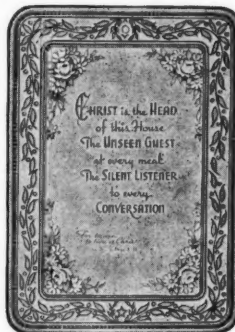
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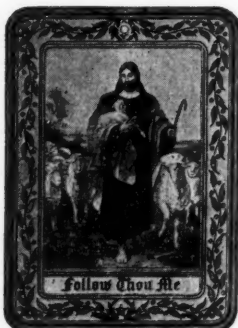
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